

## VILLAGE SERVICES

### **Mosquito Spraying**

Later this month, the Village will begin spraying for mosquitoes. The spraying will again be done Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings. Also, the Village has already begun applying larvicides to areas with freestanding water. These areas are where mosquitoes breed. You can help by making sure (as much as possible) that you don't have any stagnant freestanding water on your property (in birdbaths, old tires, low spots, eave troughs, etc.). By preventing stagnant freestanding water, it will help control mosquitoes.

### **Brush Pick-up**

The Village has resumed twice-monthly brush pick-up (the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, through October). During these pick-ups, the Village DPW only collects brush. Please do not mix weeds, grass clippings, or other non-brush material in with the brush. If you do, the DPW will not be able to pick it up, as we have no place to dispose of these non-brush materials. Remember to keep the length of the brush to 8' or less and the diameter to 4" or less. Also, please don't place the brush around/against poles, signs, or trees, and please don't put it out in the actual paved area of the street. Brush should not be placed at the curb until the weekend prior to the scheduled brush pick-up. Also, as a reminder, it no longer matters who actually cut the brush, provided that the brush is put out at the street adjacent to the property from which it was cut. This will keep unscrupulous companies and non-residents from abusing this service. If you have any questions about this program, please call the Village Office. The next few brush pick-up dates are the weeks of June 8 and 22, July 13 and 27, and August 10 and 24.

### **Grass and Weed Control**

Please remember that, with the coming of the growing season, the Village has a weed control ordinance. Please keep your grass and weeds cut to a height of no more than 12 inches. If a property-owner's grass/weeds are in excess of 12" high, the Village will send that property-owner a notice to cut the grass/weeds within 5 days. If they are not cut, the Village will have them cut and bill the property-owner. These rates are \$100/hour if the Village's DPW does the work, or actual cost plus 10% if a contractor does the work. To avoid these measures, please keep your yard/property adequately mowed.

## STREETS AND SIDEWALKS

### **Street-sweeping**

The Village's DPW is continuing its street-sweeping schedule this year. They will be sweeping streets 5 mornings a week, with the goal of having every curbed street swept every week. This sweeping schedule (weather permitting) is as follows:

- Monday and Tuesday: Streets south of US223 and east of the River Raisin.
- Wednesday: Streets north of US223 and east of the River Raisin.
- Thursday: Streets north of US223 and west of the River Raisin.
- Friday: Streets south of US223 and west of the River Raisin.

The street sweeper operator must pay careful attention to the part of the street he is sweeping in order to do the job properly. Because of this, he can not pay 100% attention to the rest of the traffic on the street. The street sweeping is best (and safest) done during times of lower traffic volumes. Normally, this is during the early morning hours, prior to 7am. Therefore, they will continue to sweep the streets between 4am and 7am on the days listed above. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but hope everyone understands that this is a safety issue.

## VILLAGE SERVICES

### **Sidewalks**

The Village will be getting bids on the Village sidewalks that need to be repaired or replaced. We have identified them already, and the actual work to do the repairs/ replacement should be done later this summer. The entire Village will again be the focus this year. As with last year, and according to current policy, the Village will generally not be billing the cost of these repairs to adjacent property-owners. These repairs will be paid for out of the Village's street funds.

### **Street Maintenance and Resurfacing**

We plan to continue with our annual pavement crack-filling program again this year, and we will have a few pavement patches to install, as well. This crack-filling will be done later this summer, on streets all over the Village. The crack-filling will improve the driving surface of the roads, and will also lengthen the service life of the roads. The Village performs crack-filling every year as a cost-effective way to extend the life of Village Streets.

In addition, the Village will be resurfacing several streets later this summer. These streets could include Cherry St., Elm St., Giles Ave. (White St. to Russell St.), High St. (US223 to S. Quick St.), North St., Parkwood St. (and the alley from it), N. Quick St., Washington St., Wilbur St., Worth St., and the Village Office parking lot. We are in the process of getting bids for these streets and the final list will be determined once we have the bids back and see how they compare to the funds budgeted for the project. About 2 inches of existing pavement will be milled off the top of these streets, and a new asphalt pavement layer will be installed in its place. Both the crack-filling and street resurfacing programs are part of our overall efforts to keep our streets in good condition.

### **US223 “Transportation Enhancement” Grant and Project**

The Village is continuing to work with MDoT and their consultants on the Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant funded streetscape project. This project, is a partnership with MDoT, and (if the state solves its budget woes) would be done in 2011. The Village plans to provide the approximately \$294,000 local match though dedicated Street funds (which by law can not be used for non-street purposes). MDoT would pay for the engineering, as it would be done at the same time as a lane reconfiguration and resurfacing project they will do east of the Village. The remaining approximately \$546,000 would be paid through MDoT's grant.

This project is part of an overall downtown/commercial improvement program approved by the Village Council, and being implemented by various groups, including the Village Council, the Village Planning Commission, and the Village DDA. The streetscape project's intent is to provide pedestrian-friendly improvements in the US223 corridor, from the River Raisin in the west to just east of Elm St. in the east (including the lot at the entrance to Ellis Park). Preliminary design work is almost complete. MDoT plans to conduct at least 1 public meeting on the project, probably later this summer, so watch the Blissfield Advance for details.

## PLANNING AND ZONING

### **Garage Sale Signs**

With garage sale season upon us, this is just another reminder that the placement of garage sale signs in the public street right-of-way (including on utility poles) is not permitted. This is due primarily to line-of-sight and safety reasons. These signs may be placed on private property, with the property-owner's permission. For streets with sidewalks, the property lines are generally on the "house" side of the sidewalk. For streets without sidewalks, the property lines are generally 10 to 15 feet away from the pavement of the street.

Administration

Business Hours in Village Government

Village Office

Mon – Fri, 9am – 5pm.

The Village Office will be closed on:

Monday, May 31, for the Memorial Day holiday and Monday, July 5, for the Independence Day holiday.

Police Department

Mon-Fri, 8:30am – 5pm

(Officers are on shift at all times and may or may not be in the office at any given time).

Schultz-Holmes Library

Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 10:30am – 5pm; Tue, Thu 1:00pm- 8:00pm.

The Library will be closed on:

Monday, May 31 for the Memorial Day holiday and Monday, July 5 for the Independence Day holiday.

Department of Public Works

Mon-Fri, 7am-3:30pm (Crewmembers are usually out on job sites).

Water Treatment Plant

7 days/week, 6:30am-11:30pm • Lab: Mon-Fri, 8am-3pm.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mon-Fri, 6:30am-3pm; Sat-Sun, 6-8am.

Village Parks

7am-11:30pm.

Gail Giles Swimming Pool

May 29 to June 10: Mon-Fri, 2–8pm, Sat-Sun, 12-8pm.

June 11 to end of season: 7 days/week, 12-8pm.

Village Board Meeting Schedules

Village Council meetings	7pm	June 14 and 28, July 12 and 26, August 9 and 23	Blissfield Library
Village Council Committee	7pm	June 21, July 19, August 16	Blissfield Library
Planning Commission	7pm	June 7, July 6, August 2	Blissfield Library
Downtown Development Authority (DDA)	7pm	June 9, July 14, August 11	Blissfield Library
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	7pm	June 10, July 8, August 12	Blissfield Library
Library Board	5pm	June 17, July 15, August 19	Blissfield Library

Who’s Who in Village Government?

With staff and Board member changes, it is probably time to remind everyone “who’s who” in Village Government. The people who make up your Village governments are:

Village Council

Jae Guetschow (President)  
George Brown  
Mark Burgermeister  
Michael Gunter  
A. Ray Jones  
Al Navarro  
Arthur Weeber

Village Planning Commission

Randy Kelley (Chair)  
John Abbott  
Scott Abbott  
Marty Birkenkamp  
Dave Koppelman  
Jan Luce  
James O'Brien  
Scott Papenhagen  
Jason Wheeler

Downtown Development Authority

Lynn Southward (Chair)  
Karen Baldwin  
Germaine Binns  
Dan Crots  
Gwen Dusa  
Zola Farrar  
Jae Guetschow  
Jeffrey Juby  
Barb McHenry  
Debbie Royal  
Roberto Valdez

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

Billie Patton (Chair)  
Chris Burtle  
Andrea Cueto  
Eric May  
Dorothy Steedle  
(open position)

Library Board

Mary Gregg (Chair)  
Gregory Brown  
Victor Hogue  
Robert Holman  
Sarah Mason  
Lauri Reinhardt

Administration

James Wonacott (Administrator)  
Laura Neuman (Clerk)  
Peggy Nieman (Treasurer)  
Jennifer Tracy (Receptionist/Office Asst.)

Water Plant

Kipp Scott (Supervisor)  
Nora Kiefer  
Steve Mason  
Margaret Paul

Police Department

Jane Kelley (Chief)  
James Novak (Sergeant)  
Brian Beeler  
Glen Meyers  
Sam Pooley  
Jacob Wagner  
Carolyn Piotter (School Crossing Guard)

Department of Public Works

Mark Strahan (Supervisor)  
Robert Beckey  
Brent Kastel  
Robert Kendall  
Dennis Pifer  
Nathan Loar (seasonal worker)

Wastewater Plant

Rick Frantz (Supervisor)

Library

Dr. Bob Barringer (Director)  
Susan Harmes (Assistant Director)  
Linda Schnabele  
Laura Binns  
Kara Prielipp

Building and Zoning

Todd Roach (Building Inspector)  
Don Olszewski (Plumbing Inspector)  
Brian Bovee (Mechanical Inspector)  
Lew Sprague (Electrical Inspector)  
Jennifer Tracy (Zoning Administrator)

Parks and Recreation

Ben Brown (Recreation Coordinator)

Gail Giles Swimming Pool (seasonal)

Allison Schalter (Manager)  
Jack Koch (Asst. Manager)  
Clarissa DuMoulin  
Ryan Forche  
Grace Green  
Deanna Guetschow  
Jonathon McEwan  
Amy Stahl  
Jamie Goetz

# BLISSFIELD

## VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Village of Blissfield, 408 E. Adrian St., P.O. Box 129, Blissfield, MI 49228

MAY 2010

phone: (517) 486-4347 email: administrator@blissfieldmichigan.gov web site: www.blissfieldmichigan.gov

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U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
BLISSFIELD, MI  
49228  
PERMIT NO. 30

# BLISSFIELD

MAY 2010  
VOL. 17 NO. 2

## VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

### Gail Giles Swimming Pool

The pool will open for the season on Saturday, May 29 (Memorial Day weekend). This first day of the season, as always, will be a free day. The Village's pool staff this year will be Allison Schalter as Manager; Jack Koch as Assistant Manager; Clarissa DuMoulin, Ryan Forche, Grace Green, Deanna Guetschow, Jonathon McEwan, and Amy Stahl as returning lifeguards; and Jamie Goetz as a new lifeguard.

The pool staff will be teaching swimming lessons again this year. As usual, though, there will be 3 sessions, each running in the mornings Monday through Thursday for 2 weeks. The first session will likely start the week of June 21. The sessions will cost \$30 per student for Village residents, and \$40 per student for non-Village residents. Please watch the Blissfield Advance or [www.blissfieldmichigan.gov](http://www.blissfieldmichigan.gov) for more info. Please note that funds are available (thanks to a generous donor) for partial scholarships for financially needy families. All the forms and details will be available at the Village Office. Remember, seasonal and monthly pool passes will also be available this year at the Village Office, beginning May 24.

### Old Home Canning Site

The Village is in the process of purchasing the 35 acres of the old Home Canning site, at E. Jefferson St. and US223 (across from McDonalds). The purchase price is \$153,000, and the village will use funds from its Capital Projects Fund to purchase the property. Private partners will also provide funds for the project, up to a total of \$125,000. The Village's intent is to complete the purchase of the property, finish the environmental assessments that have to be done, and demolish/salvage out the buildings on the property. The Lenawee County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority will generously provide \$40,000 towards the environmental study work (through a US EPA grant they received), and there may be state grant funds available for the demolition work. The whole idea behind the project is to provide ready-to-use industrial and business space for companies who might choose to locate here in Blissfield, either as the economy finally improves or as a result of the BioDri, Michigan project.

### Water Plant Improvements

The Village is looking at a couple of different situations at the water plant that might require us to make some improvements to the plant. First, some new regulations regarding the disinfectants we use (currently chlorine) start going in to effect in 2011. Some water plants will have to change disinfectants (say, to ultra-violet – UV – light) after that date, but some won't. It all depends on how well the plants manage by-products of these disinfectants. Our plant manages them very well, and we are in the process of working with the MDEQ on a study of the situation. Things look very good so far, so we may not have to make the change. But, we won't know for sure for another year or so (after the study is completed). Second, the sludge (mostly river sediment and water treatment chemical residue) that the water plant generates in making good clean drinking water for the Village is currently pumped to the Village's wastewater (sewer) treatment plant for processing. With water demand up (due in part to the ethanol plant in Riga) and with improved treatment effectiveness, this means that the amount of sludge sent to the wastewater plant is up considerably, and it is having a negative effect on the wastewater plant. We have hired an engineer (C2AE, from Lansing) to design a solution to the problem, and we have submitted grant and loan applications to the MEDC and USDA to help pay for the project. Unfortunately, we did not get the MEDC grant, and we should hear about the USDA application very soon. We hope to put the project out to bid this fall.

### Garbage and Recycling

The Village operates a drop-off recycling center, located in the back corner of the Bachmayer Public Parking Lot. The center and lot are off of N. Lane St., just north of US223 and the RR tracks. The center is open 24 hours a day, and is well-lit. The recycling center accepts glass (colored and clear), plastic bottles (clear, colored, and white), and aluminum/metal cans. Recyclables do not need to be sorted. There is also a large dumpster for scrap metal. We do not accept household trash and rubbish that is not recyclable, nor can we accept paper materials at this time. Due to the high demand, the Village's recycling contractor has replaced the individual bins with one large recycling dumpster. It still accepts the same materials as the bins, but should provide for a cleaner, more efficient center. The Village is also looking at the possibility of Village-wide curbside trash and recycling pick-up. This service, which we hope would provide more economical and effective trash and recycling collection services to residential properties in the Village, is out to bid as you read this. The cost of the service (if put in place) would be passed on to property-owners. The hope is that by having one collector collect everything (trash and recycling) in the Village, they could do so at a monthly rate that is less expensive than what people are currently paying for subscription trash services. In addition, the recycling pick-up would be included in that cost, and would accept everything that we accept at the recycling center plus paper, cardboard, foam, and other recyclable materials. Once we get the bids, the Village Council plans to try to see if there would be any particular demand (or opposition) to this type of program. Please watch for further details, as we determine them.

### Michigan Main Street

The Village, through the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), has applied to be a Select level member of the Michigan Main Street (MMS) program. The MMS program is a community driven, comprehensive strategy that encourages economic development through historic preservation in ways that are appropriate for today's marketplace. Its main four focus areas include Design, Economic Restructuring, Promotion, and Organization. If we are selected in July, the Village's DDA would serve as our Main Street Board, and we would have a committee overseeing our efforts in each of the four focus areas. Benefits from participation could include protecting and strengthening our existing tax base, creating a positive community image, creating visually appealing and economically viable buildings, attracting new businesses, creating new jobs, bringing new residents to Blissfield's downtown, increasing investment in our downtown, preserving historic architectural resources in our downtown, and providing services tailored to our needs.

If we are selected, our participation in the Michigan Main Street will not cost us any duties, fees, or any other similar charges. We will get access to the Michigan Main Street resources, which include design services, MMS Quarterly Trainings, National Main Street Conference Registration, Resource Library Materials, MMS Road Signs, MMS Listserv, accreditation with the National Main Street Center (NMSC), Real Estate Development Training, Entrepreneurship Training, Retail Merchandise Training, Accredited Technical Assistance Training, Year-end Evaluations, Resource Team, Market Study (including Downtown Housing & Population Recruitment Strategy), Volunteer Development Training, Work Plan Development Training, Main Street Building Basics, including Green Principles, Committee Training, Manager Selection Assistance, Manager Training, Board Training, Base-line Assessment, and MMS Orientation.

Participation in the MMS program will not cost any business or property-owner any new or additional taxes. They may commit to volunteer to serve on one of the committees, or in any other fashion, and they may voluntarily contribute funds to the Blissfield Main Street program (if we are selected), but any participation (of time or funds) is voluntary. The DDA/Main Street Board would be required by MMS to hire a Main Street Director to coordinate all of the DDA/Main Street activities, and funds for that position would come from the DDA/Main Street budget that will be included in the application package.

The Village (especially the DDA) is trying to develop ways to strengthen and improve our commercial areas (especially our downtown). Participation in the Michigan Main Street program is one important way we are trying to do so.

# PARKS AND RECREATION

## Greetings from the Recreation Department.....

We are pleased to announce that this year we have a total of 270 children participating in our spring soccer season! This number represents another twenty percent increase and gives our league a total of 36 teams. Thanks to all of the volunteer coaches and parents that dedicate their time to make each season a success. We couldn’t do it without you!

A huge “thank you” goes to Blissfield Community Schools as well for their generous support of our programs. The use of their fields and facilities has allowed our Recreation Department to grow to unprecedented numbers. Last calendar year, we provided programming for over 1,300 individuals. This simply could not have been accomplished without the cooperation exhibited by school officials. Thank you and know that you have become an integral part of our overall success! I also want to thank all of our sponsors for this year. Even in these tough economic times, we have been fortunate enough to receive donations from around twenty local businesses and organizations. Their commitment to support our programs reminds me that we live in a village that values family oriented activities and programs designed to enhance the quality of life in our area. Thanks to all of the following sponsors:

Blissfield Community Schools, American Legion Post 325, Blissfield Rotary, Blissfield Area Lions, “Do Good Things”, Uckele Health and Nutrition, Blissfield Kiwanis, Blissfield State Bank, Gilson’s Hardware & Home Center, Bailey Family Chiropractic, William Gray MD, Blissfield Place Assisted Living, Knapp Chevrolet, Christopher Mallow DDS, TLC Community Credit Union, Iott Insurance Agency, Blissfield Coney Island, Schmidt & Sons Pharmacy, Coach Light Estates, and SIMCO Enterprises LLC.

Last, I want to thank the Blissfield Rotary Club for their very generous contribution of up to \$7,500 for the purchase of a “portable” NiceRink outdoor ice rink for the Village. The rink will be about 48 ft. x 100 ft. and the funds include the purchase of benches, fire pits, hockey nets, and lighting. At this point, we plan to put the rink near the basketball courts in Ellis Park (starting next winter), and we are considering having both hockey times and open skate times. Again, thanks to the Blissfield Rotary Club for their most generous contribution. As a reminder, we invite you to check out the Parks and Recreation section of our Village website at [www.blissfieldmichigan.gov](http://www.blissfieldmichigan.gov) to view current programming, check schedules, and sign up for email alerts.

**Ben Brown, Recreation Director**

## Open Parks & Recreation Board Position

We still have an open position on the Village’s Parks & Recreation Board. This Board oversees the Village’s Parks and Recreation Plan and Master Street Tree Plan. It also makes recommendations to the Village Council regarding parks, recreation, and forestry-related issues, programs, and projects. Last, it works with the Recreation Coordinator to provide recreation programming in the Village. Anybody who is interested in this position should send a brief letter (or email) to Village Administrator Jim Wonacott at the Village Office. His address is PO Box 129, Blissfield, MI 49228, and his email is [administrator@blissfieldmichigan.gov](mailto:administrator@blissfieldmichigan.gov). He will see that the Village Council gets any such letters and/or emails, so they can appoint someone to the open seat.

## Park Shelter House Reservations

The Village is now accepting reservations for the various shelter houses in Ellis Park and Clara Bachmayer Park. To make a reservation, call the Village Office at 486-4347. They are available for \$15 for Village residents. For non-Village residents, they are available for \$20 for a small shelter and \$30 for a large shelter. Please note that these fees are non-refundable.

## Clean Up After Your Pets!

If you walk your pet on or along the Village’s sidewalks or streets, or in any of our parks, please remember to clean up after them. We have had complaints recently regarding pet waste in people’s yards or in the parks, and such situations do not comply with the Village’s animal ordinance. We have such a nice Village to walk in, with pleasant, tree-lined streets and lovely parks. Please help keep them that way so everyone can enjoy them – be sure to clean up after your pets.

## Upcoming Skateboard Camp

The Blissfield Skate Park Committee, in partnership with the Blissfield Parks & Recreation Department, will have a Skate Camp featuring skateboard pro Bill Danforth on July 13, 14 and 15, 2010. The camp will be held at the skateboard park in Ellis Park. Contact Tony Casper for details at (517) 605-6030.

# DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA) NEWS

## A few words from the DDA Board Chairman...

The Village Council and the DDA have both passed resolutions to apply for and adopt the Michigan Main Street Program here in Blissfield. We have had many people working on the application process, collecting the necessary information to get the application ready to send in. We sent in the application earlier in May. We have been at the Associate level in the Michigan Main Street Program for about two years, and we have applied for the Select level in the Main Street process. It is a privilege (not to mention very competitive) to be accepted into the Select level. Once selected, there are many benefits to being in that level. The people who worked on the application are enthused about getting the job done. If you sent back commitment letters in support of this program, we thank you, and we look forward to working with you if/when we are selected.

Also, Blissfield’s second annual Art at Your Feet street painting event will take place Sat. & Sun., Sept. 11 & 12, 2010. This year’s event is being co-sponsored by the DDA. Artists will begin working early Sat. morning and the event will continue into the evening. Local businesses are encouraged to help us celebrate with corresponding activities. A Call for Artists will be going out soon. If you would like to participate as an artist or volunteer please contact Chairperson Peg Whiting @ 517 486-4308 or co-chair Carol Glauner @ 517 447-3007, 517 403-1168 or LadyMac\_@hotmail.com. Watch for more info in The Advance and Downtown Blissfield’s new Facebook page! We encourage you to help us grow this event!!!

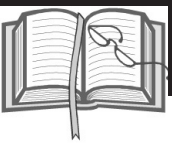
Also, again this year, the DDA will be sponsoring car and bike shows downtown. The shows will be the second Thursday of each month from May through September, from 5pm to 8pm. This year’s dates are May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, and September 9. Be sure to come downtown to see the antique, classic, muscle, and other cars and motorcycles and join in the fun!

Last, the DDA has improved its Façade Improvement Grant program. Grant dollars are available for rehabilitation and restoration of building exteriors, installation or replacement of appropriate windows, appropriate façade cleaning or painting, and masonry improvements, with the grants reimbursing up to 50% of approved project costs. The maximum grant per year per applicant is now \$5,000. A large project may now be funded up to \$5,000/year for a maximum of 3 years. However, under no circumstances will a single grant, or a multi-year series of grants, exceed 50% of the total project cost. Applications will be reviewed by the DDA Facade Improvement Program Committee and will be rated on how well they maintain the architectural and historical integrity of the building, the DDA district, and other pertinent criteria. The DDA will also provide a 2-hour historical design consultation for an applicant, as well.

**Lynn H. Southward**  
**DDA Board Chairman**

# QUESTIONS & COMMENTS CALL 486-4347

# SCHULTZ-HOLMES MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Prevent Summer Setback: Join the Summer Reading Club! On average, children lose between one and three months of grade-level equivalency during the summer months each year, a phenomenon known as “Summer Setback.” Fortunately, the Blissfield Library and other libraries across Michigan and the rest of the country team up with parents and children to eliminate this phenomenon through Summer Reading Programs.

Summer reading programs are an efficient, fun way to incorporate reading and related activities into summer family time. Remember:

- Reading gets better when you practice it.
- Reading helps improve writing style.
- Having a librarian’s help makes a difference in the amount children read.
- Children read more when they listen to and discuss stories.

This year’s Summer Reading Programs feature a water theme. “Make a Splash: Read,” for kids who are reading up to the 5th grade, features a modest requirement to check 10 books out of the library and return them. Finishers receive a collection of incentive prizes and an invitation to an end of summer performance by Cirque Amongus. “Make Waves @ Your Library” is for older kids, 5th grade and up, and involves some thinking and writing activities, in addition to reading in different genres. Finishers are invited to the Cirque Amongus performance and to a Wii Tournament and Pizza Party at the library. Adults can get in on the action, too, as “Water Your Mind: Read” features activities and prize drawings for grown-ups. In an effort to make the library and reading integral parts of the community’s life, the library will host programs, such as movies and craft programs, for the kids and their families all summer long. Many of the programs will feature prize drawings.

All of these programs are made free and open to the public by the library and through the generous support of area businesses and individuals. If you own a local business, you may have seen a letter in the mail recently asking for a donation of prizes or cash to make the Summer Reading Programs possible. Whether you see a letter or not, we hope you will be able to help. The library will mention your sponsorship in any program promotion and will provide you with a certificate you can post to let your customers know that you support reading. If you have any questions about how your business can support the Summer Reading Programs, contact the library. We also encourage individuals to give to the library, in general, and to summer reading, in particular. Donations to the library are tax-deductible. We may be biased, but we think the library is Blissfield’s Best Bargain and the easiest way to prevent Summer Setback.

Bob Barringer, PhD  
Library Director

# QUESTIONS & COMMENTS CALL 486-4347

# POLICE NEWS



Well its Spring here in Blissfield and the good weather has brought smiles and happier dispositions. I thought for this column I would try and add a few more smiles rather than the usual serious topics. Police Officers are expected to enforce the laws but there are a few very strange laws still on the books in Michigan that we might find it difficult to enforce....

- A woman isn’t allowed to cut her own hair without her husband’s permission.
- It is illegal to kill a dog using a decompression chamber.
- It is illegal to let a pig run free in Detroit unless it has a ring in its nose.
- In Grand Haven no person shall throw an abandoned hoop skirt into any street or on any sidewalk, under penalty of a five dollar fine for each offense.
- It is illegal to paint sparrows to sell them as parakeets in Harper Woods.
- In Kalamazoo it is against the law to serenade your girlfriend.
- The Chief of Police in Rochester must have inspected all bathing suits.

Michigan isn’t the only state with some strange laws, so when you travel to some of our neighboring states you should know...

- It is illegal to get a fish drunk in Ohio.
- In Illinois it is illegal to eat dinner in a place that is on fire.
- It is against the law to drive with an un-caged bear in your car when traveling in Missouri.
- In Indiana you can’t buy cold liquor in Grocery Stores and you can’t buy milk in Liquor Stores.

I hope you all have a safe and happy spring. As usual if you have any questions about the laws here in Blissfield, the Blissfield PD is open 24 hours a day 7 days a week and we will try and answer them for you.

Jane M. Kelley  
Police Chief